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lecture by Dr. M. T. Cook on "Peach Yellows and Methods of their Control." Professor Cook briefly traced the history of the disease from the earliest times to the present. He showed that whereas the problem was formerly considered a trivial matter it is now recognized as one of the most profound subjects which presents itself to the plant pathologist. The peach yellows and a closely related disease, little peach, are of considerable menace to the peach growing industry in the east. This is due to the fact that these diseases cannot be detected in their earlier stages and consequently nurserymen and growers are continually propagating by budding from infected stock.

A most peculiar phenomenon is the appearance of the external morphological symptoms of peach yellows in trees that have been injured, girdled, or neglected. The leaves become leathery, curl, and usually fold at the midrib. The blossoms appear earlier and likewise the fruit. The infected peach is generally speckled and insipid. The one character which enables the horticulturalist to make certain the presence of peach yellows is the witches-broom effect of the twigs in winter. This character is absent from trees suffering from injury or little peach disease.

At present there is no cure for peach yellows or little peach, and the only remedial measures taken to prevent the spread of the diseases are quarantine, and the destruction of infected trees. Dr. Cook hopes that within a short time he will be able to give the nurserymen and growers simple tests for detecting the diseases in their earlier stages.

Meeting adjourned.

Michael Levine,
*Secretary pro tem.*

## NEWS ITEMS

Dr. Britton, accompanied by Mrs. Britton, Mr. John F. Cowell, Director of the Buffalo Botanical Garden and Mr. Frank E. Lutz of the American Museum of Natural History, sailed for Porto Rico on February 7 to continue studies of the botany and zoölogy of that island in coöperation with the New York Academy of Sciences. The party will make Mayagüez a base of operations for explorations in western Porto Rico, and the islands of the Mona Passage, planning to return to New York about March 16.

An American Botanical Exchange Bureau has been started by Mr. G. L. Fisher, 901 Pease Avenue, Houston, Texas. It serves a very useful purpose as a medium of exchange for herbarium specimens of American and foreign plants. Further information may be had from Mr. Fisher.

Dr. C. A. Schenck, who founded the Biltmore Forest School in 1898 and has been in charge of it ever since, announces the discontinuance of the school and his appointment to a position in the government forest service in Germany.

Yale University has just completed a new laboratory of botany and zoölogy. The building is an imposing structure of brown sandstone, erected at a cost of about five hundred thousand dollars, and has been named after the donor, Mrs. C. J. Osborn. It is constructed in the shape of an L, one wing being devoted to botany, the other to zoölogy. The botanical wing, three stories in height above the basement, contains eight large laboratories, a smaller laboratory for graduate students, a small lecture hall, numerous private rooms, rooms for mycological and photographic work, and a capacious herbarium and museum room. In the angle between the two wings is a large auditorium with a seating capacity of three hundred. It is expected that in the near future a plant house with facilities for experimental work will be added.

Dr. Lazarus Schöney, for some time a member of the Club, died at Coney Island on February 18. He was a Fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences and a member of numerous other scientific bodies. He was born at Budapest, October 18, 1838.

Professor W. W. Bailey, for many years the head of the department of botany at Brown University, died at Providence, R. I., on February 20. The *Evening Post* writes, in part, as follows: "Professor Bailey was the son of Prof. Jacob Whitman and Maria Slaughter Bailey. He entered Brown University in 1860, and in 1862 became a private in the Tenth Rhode Island Volunteers. He returned to Brown and was graduated in 1864. He received the degree of Ph.B. in 1873, that of A.M. in 1893 from that university. He studied botany at Columbia in 1872 and at Harvard Summer School in 1875, 1876, and 1879. In 1866 he was an assistant in chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and from 1867–68 he was the botanist of the United States geological survey of the fortieth parallel. During the latter year he became Deputy Secretary of the State of Rhode Island, and from 1869–71 he served as assistant librarian of the Providence Athenæum. He taught botany in private schools in Providence, and in 1877 he became an instructor at Brown. From 1881–1906 he served as professor of botany at the same university, and since the latter date he has been professor emeritus. Professor Bailey was a member of the second board of visitors to the United States Military Academy in 1896, and in 1902 a delegate to the centennial of the United States Military Academy. He was a director of the Providence Athenæum, 1900–3; a member of the International Society of Botanists, the New England Botanical Club, the Rhode Island Horticultural Society, the Boston and Newport Societies of Natural History, the Torrey Botanical Club, the New York Microscopical Society, Phi Beta Kappa, having been president of the Rhode Island Alpha, 1903–5, Sigma Xi, president of Brown chapter, 1903–4. He was also a member of the G. A. R., the Sons of the Revolution, the Society of American Wars, the Council of the Agassiz Association, and an honorary member of the Rhode Island Medical Society." Professor Bailey was born at West Point, N. Y., on February 22, 1843. He was the author of many books and articles.

The "second circular" of the Fourth International Botanical Congress, to be held in London in 1915, has appeared. It is taken up by a discussion of the nomenclature questions to be brought up at the Congress. Among these are to fix the starting point for the nomenclature of Schizomycetes, Schizophyceae (excepting Nostocaceae), Flagellatae and Bacillariaceae; and the compilation of lists of "genera conservanda" for fungi, lichens, Bryophyta, and of a double list of such genera for paleobotanists. After bewailing the fact that nomenclature has occupied most of the attention of the congresses since the Paris meeting in 1900, the incorrigibly optimistic committee close their circular thus: "It is highly desirable from all points of view that this work should be completed in London in 1915, and should cease to occupy the International Botanical Congresses. We therefore urgently beg botanists in general, and cryptogamists and palaeobotanists in particular, to examine carefully these points which still require consideration, and to formulate their propositions in such a manner that nothing may be left over for 1920." Further information may be had from Dr. A. B. Rendle, British Museum, Cromwell Road, London, S. W. The Rapporteur Général is Dr. J. Briquet, Director of the Botanical Garden at Geneva.

We learn from *Science* that The Mendelian Society of Vienna has celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of Mendel's death by opening a new institute devoted to research in heredity.

Dr. E. East, of the Bussey Institution, Harvard University, delivered a lecture at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, on Saturday, February 28, on "The evolution of the modern ear of corn."

According to the *Evening Post* Miss Edna Dwinel Stoddard has been promoted from instructor to assistant professor of botany at Smith College.

We learn from *Science* that Dr. Ludwig Diels, of Marburg, has been appointed associate professor of botany in the University of Berlin, and assistant director of the Botanical Garden and Museum.